How to become a Dragon

- EPISODE 175 -

...HOW MANY EMOTIONS HUMANS FEEL...

...FROM THE MOMENT THEY ARE BORN TO THE MOMENT THEY DIE.

THE LOVE I FELT FROM MY FAMILY'S EMBRACE.

THE
SELF-RESPECT
I NURTURED AS
I DEVOTED MYSELF
TO MY STUDIES.

THE PASSION THAT BURNED AS I SHARED MY THOUGHTS WITH MY FRIENDS.

THE EXCITEMENT OF RECEIVING A NEW BOOK.

THE
PRIDE OF BEING
COMPLIMENTED BY
MY TEACHER.

THESE
WERE MOMENTS OF
HAPPINESS THAT WERE
AS PRECIOUS AS
JEWELS.

THEN THERE
WAS THE BETRAYAL
FROM SOMEONE WHO
WAS ONCE A
FRIEND.

THE DESPAIR OF
FINDING OUT ABOUT
MY PARENTS' DEATHS
ALL TOO LATE.

THE RAGE
I FEEL TOWARDS
MY NEMESIS.

THE
RESENTMENT
I FEEL TOWARDS
THIS HOUSE I AM
TRAPPED IN.

THE
HELPLESSNESS OF
BEING UNABLE TO
DO ANYTHING.

GRIEF,
BITTERNESS,
ANGUISH.

THESE ARE THE SICKENING EMOTIONS THAT HAVE WASHED OVER ME SINCE THAT DAY.

I HAVE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO LET THESE EMOTIONS FESTER...

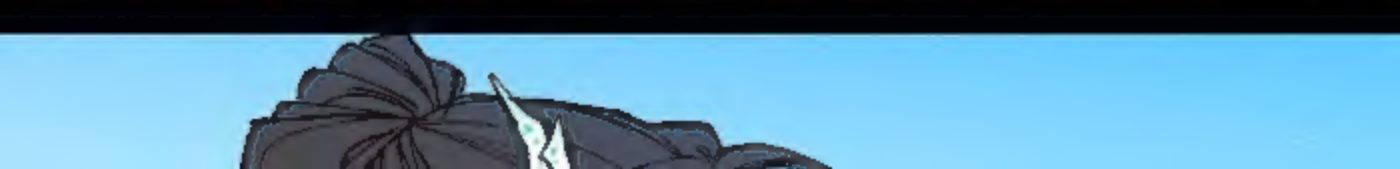
...AND EVEN AS I LIVED ON IN BATED

BREATH...

...I TOLD MYSELF...

...THAT EVEN IN THE FACE OF HUMILIATION BY LESSER MEN,

I WOULD NOT ALLOW MY HEART TO BE SULLIED.



BUT IN THAT MOMENT...
...I FELT...

AS I SAW YOU, WHO BORE NOT AN OUNCE OF RESENTMENT...

...I FELT...

...AN EARTHSHATTERING SENSE OF...
...SHAME.

THE ONLY THING I COULD DO...

...WAS PROTECT MY HEART, AND YET...

...THE MOMENT I SAW YOU SMILE IN FRONT OF YOUR ENEMY'S GRAVE WITHOUT A SHRED OF MALICE...

...MY HEART, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN OVERCOME WITH DARKNESS, WAS CAST INTO THE BLINDING SPRING SUNLIGHT.
WHAT HAD I ACCOMPLISHED?
WHAT HAD I PROTECTED?

MY BODY
AND SOUL...
...WERE
ALREADY TRAPPED IN
A BOTTOMLESS MIRE.
MORE
THAN WHEN
MY FAMILY WAS
MURDERED...
...MORE THAN

ENEMY KICKED
ME DOWN...

...MORE THAN
WHEN MY FORMER
FRIEND OFFERED ME
CHEAP PUTY...

...MORE
THAN THE NIGHT I HEARD
A YOUNG SERVANT GIRL CRY
AFTER BEING TAKEN FROM
HER FAMILY AND
SOLD AWAY...

THE MOMENT
I STOOD BEFORE
YOU...

...I FELT MORE PATHETIC AND WORTHLESS THAN I EVER HAD BEFORE.

I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULD NOTICE MY MISERABLE FEELINGS...

...AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO BECOME AS PURE

AS YOU IF I STAYED BY YOUR SIDE.

I WAS ANXIOUS...

...AND TRIED TO CALM MYSELF DOWN...

...BUT THERE WAS NOTHING

I COULD DO...

CLENCH

...ABOUT THE RAGE AND ANGER THAT THREATED TO ERUPT FROM TIME TO TIME...

I COULD NOT BRING MYSELF TO FORGIVE.

THUD

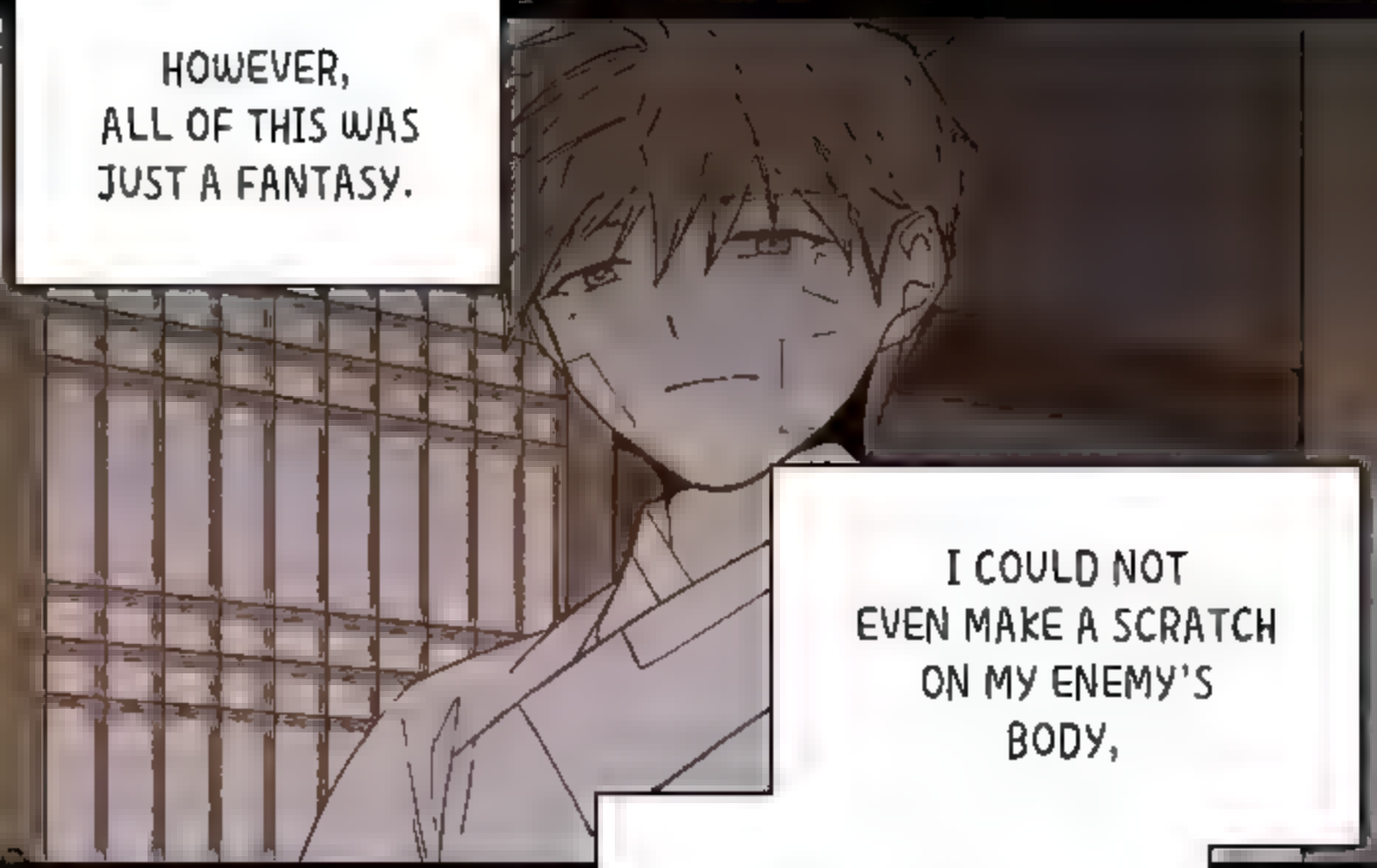
I WANTED TO KILL MY ENEMIES AGAIN AND AGAIN.

I HAD NO INTENTION TO ACCEPT...

...MY FORMER FRIEND'S PATHETIC

ATTEMPTS AT AN APOLOGY.

HOWEVER, ALL OF THIS WAS JUST A FANTASY.



I COULD NOT EVEN MAKE A SCRATCH ON MY ENEMY'S BODY,

AND ALL I COULD DO WAS MAKE MYSELF SMALLER AND TAKE THE SCRAPS GIVEN TO ME IN THIS HOUSE.

I WAS COMMITTING MURDER COUNTLESS TIMES IN

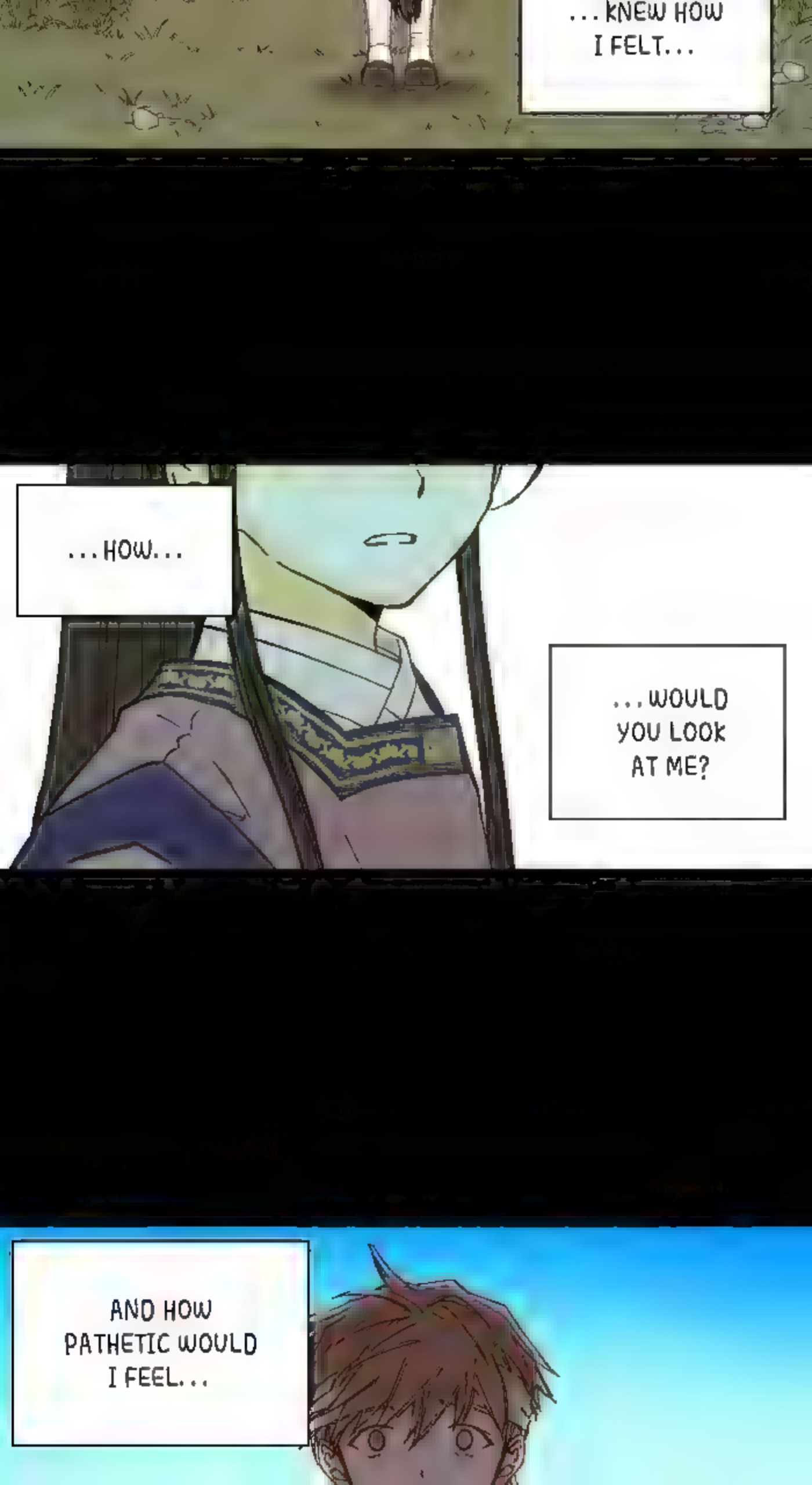
MY HEART...

CRACKLE

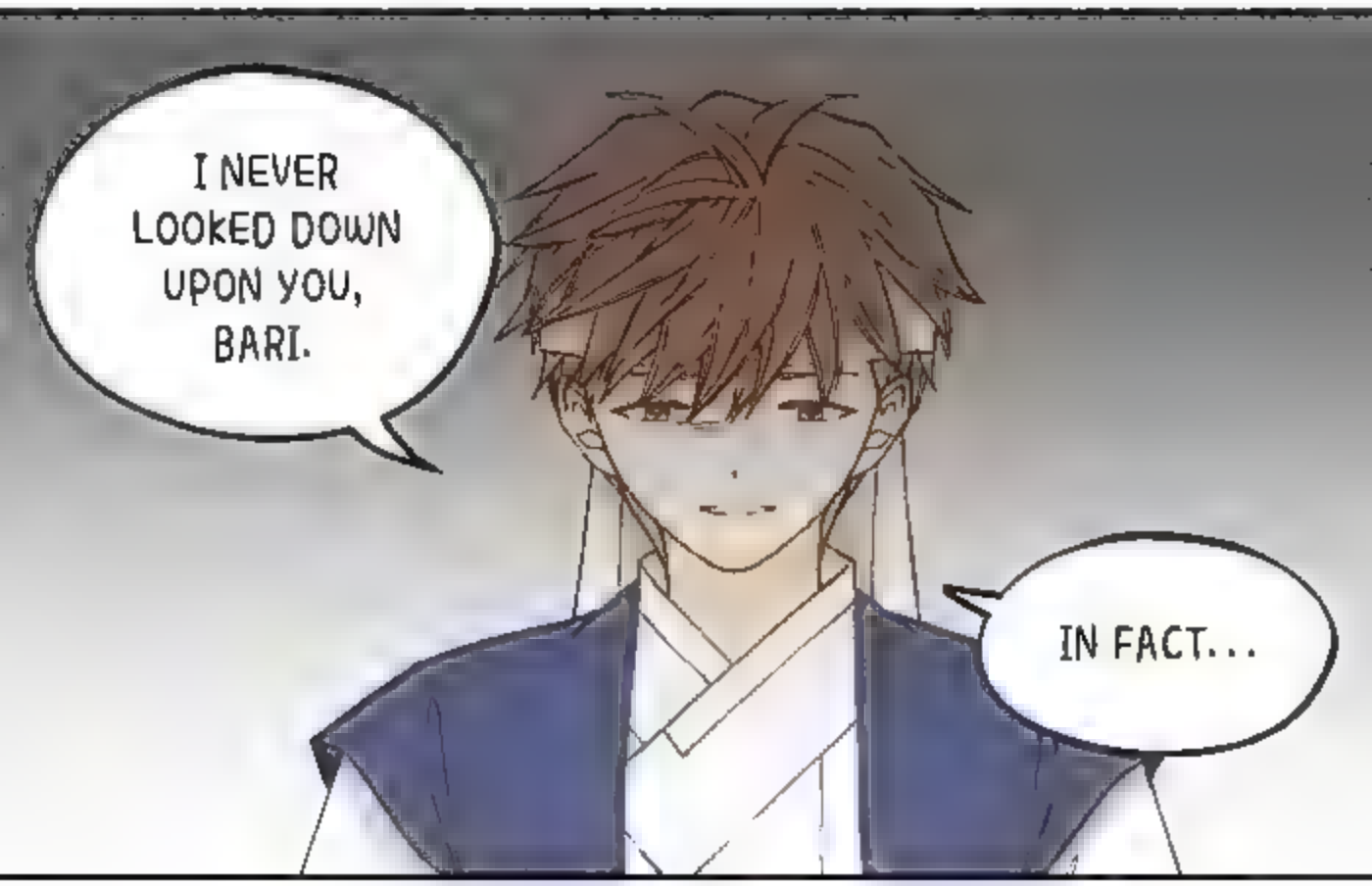
CRACKLE

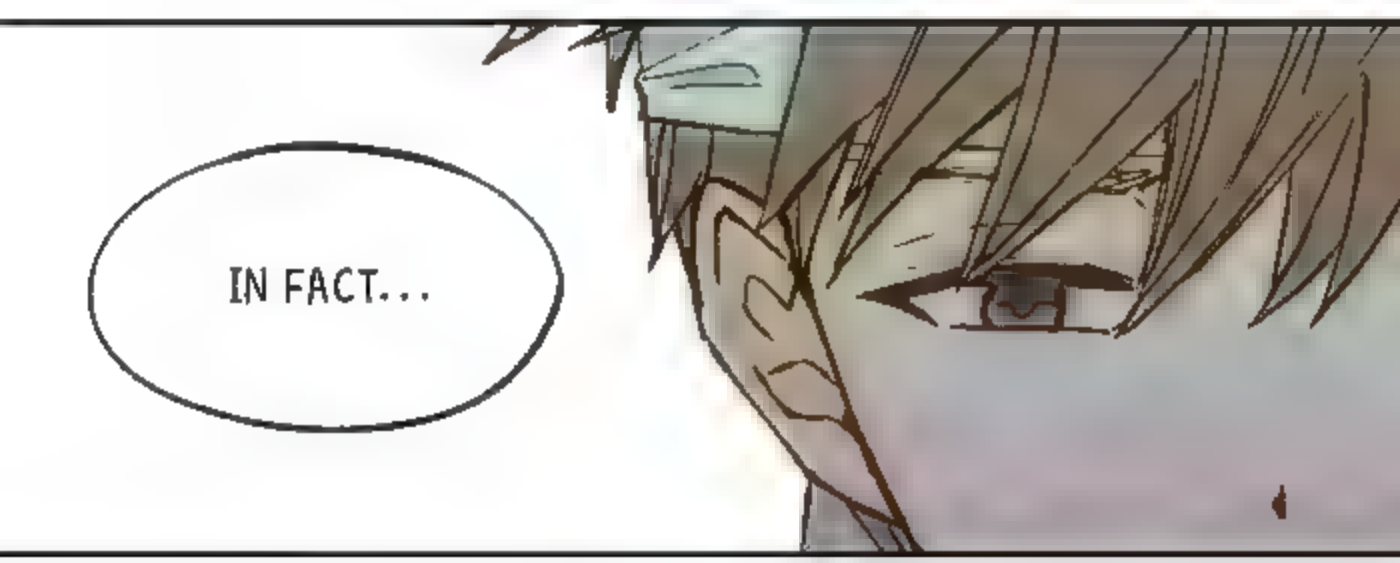
...BUT IF YOU KNEW THAT...

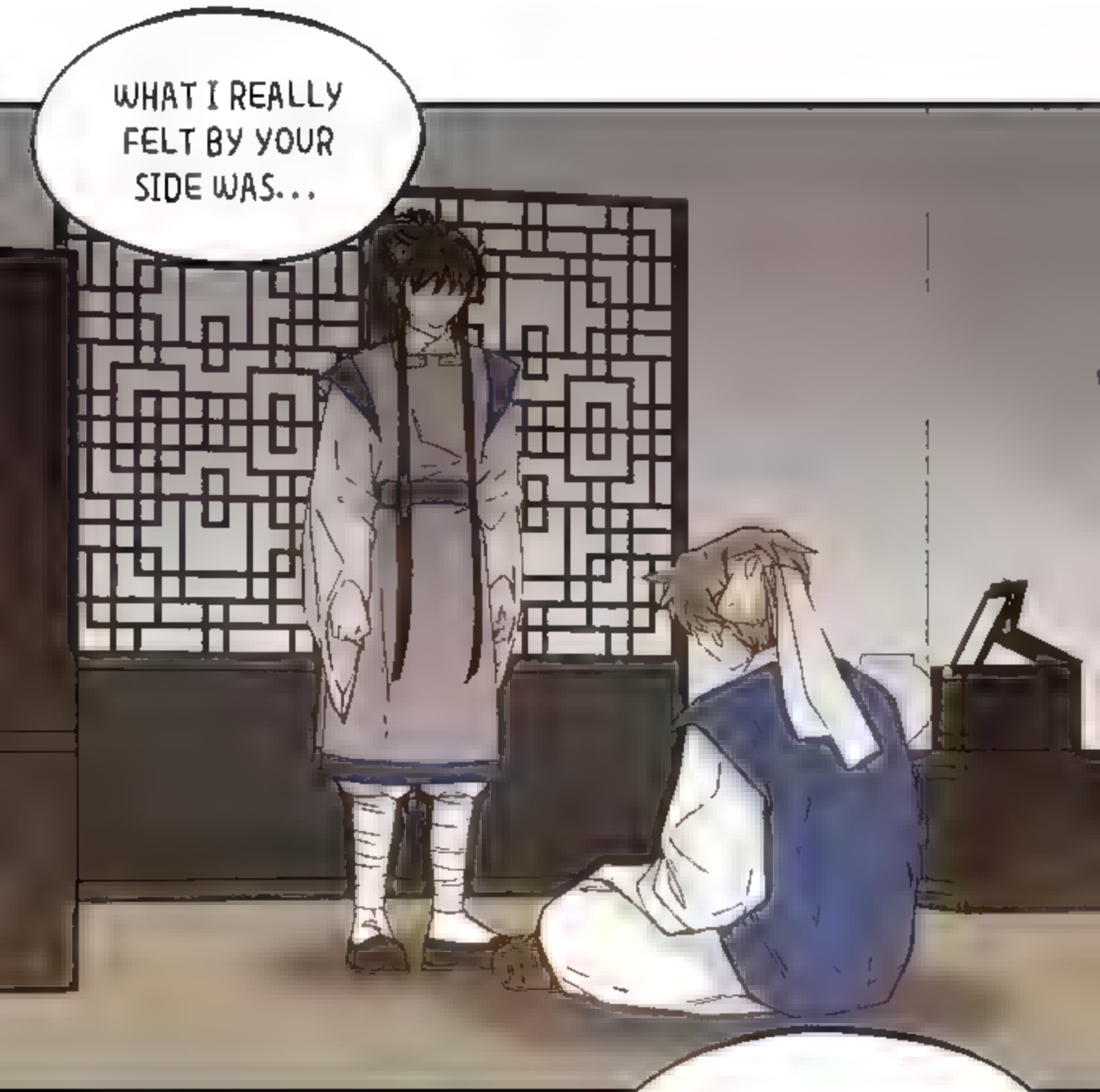
IF YOU, SOMEONE WHO HAD FORGIVEN EVERY FOE WHO HAD BETRAYED YOU...

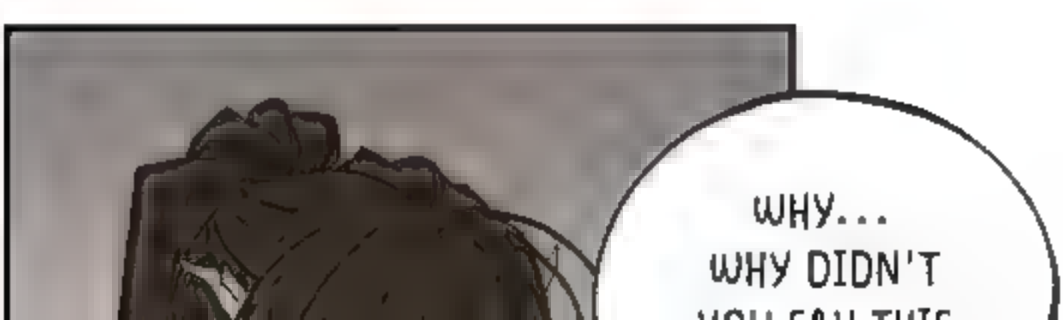

...KNEW HOW I FELT...
...HOW...
...WOULD YOU LOOK AT ME?
AND HOW PATHETIC WOULD I FEEL...

...IN FRONT OF YOU?

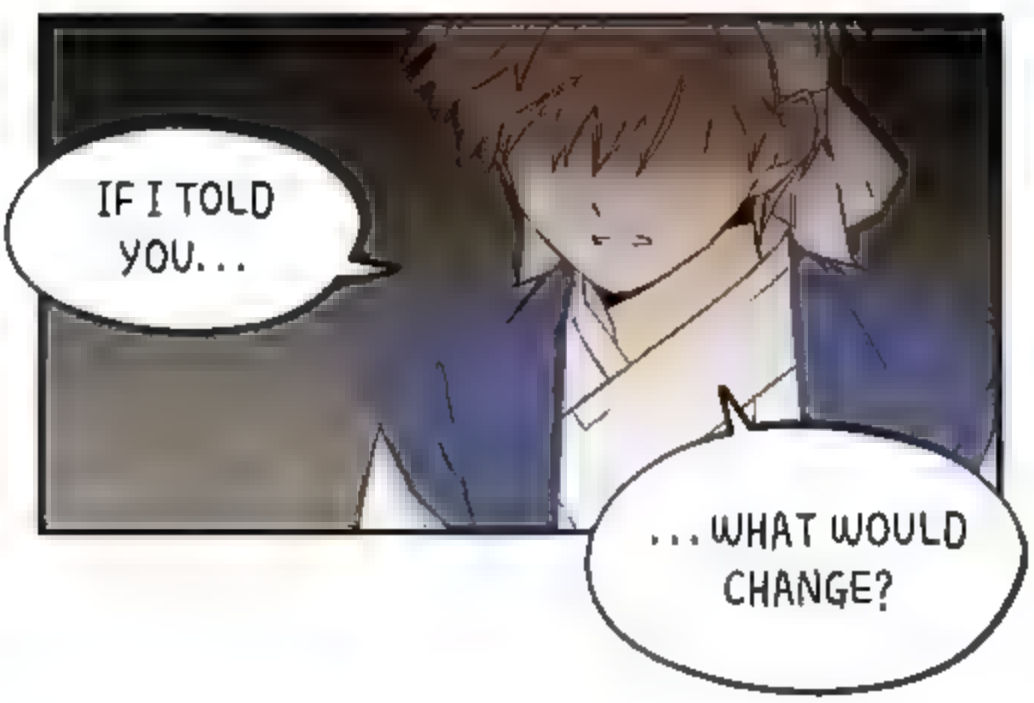

I NEVER LOOKED DOWN UPON YOU, BARI.
IN FACT...


IN FACT...


WHAT I REALLY FELT BY YOUR SIDE WAS...
...INSECURITY.


WHY...
WHY DIDN'T

YOU SAY THIS TO ME?
IF YOU'D TOLD ME--


IF I TOLD YOU...
...WHAT WOULD CHANGE?

THEN...

DID YOU HATE ME THIS WHOLE TIME?
WHEN YOU SAID YOU WANTED ME TO BECOME A DRAGON...
...AND THAT I'D DO A GOOD JOB,
WERE YOU LYING TO ME?

NO...
I WASN'T.
BUT...

...IF MY FEELINGS WERE TO BE JUSTIFIED...

...I NEEDED YOU TO BE WRONG.

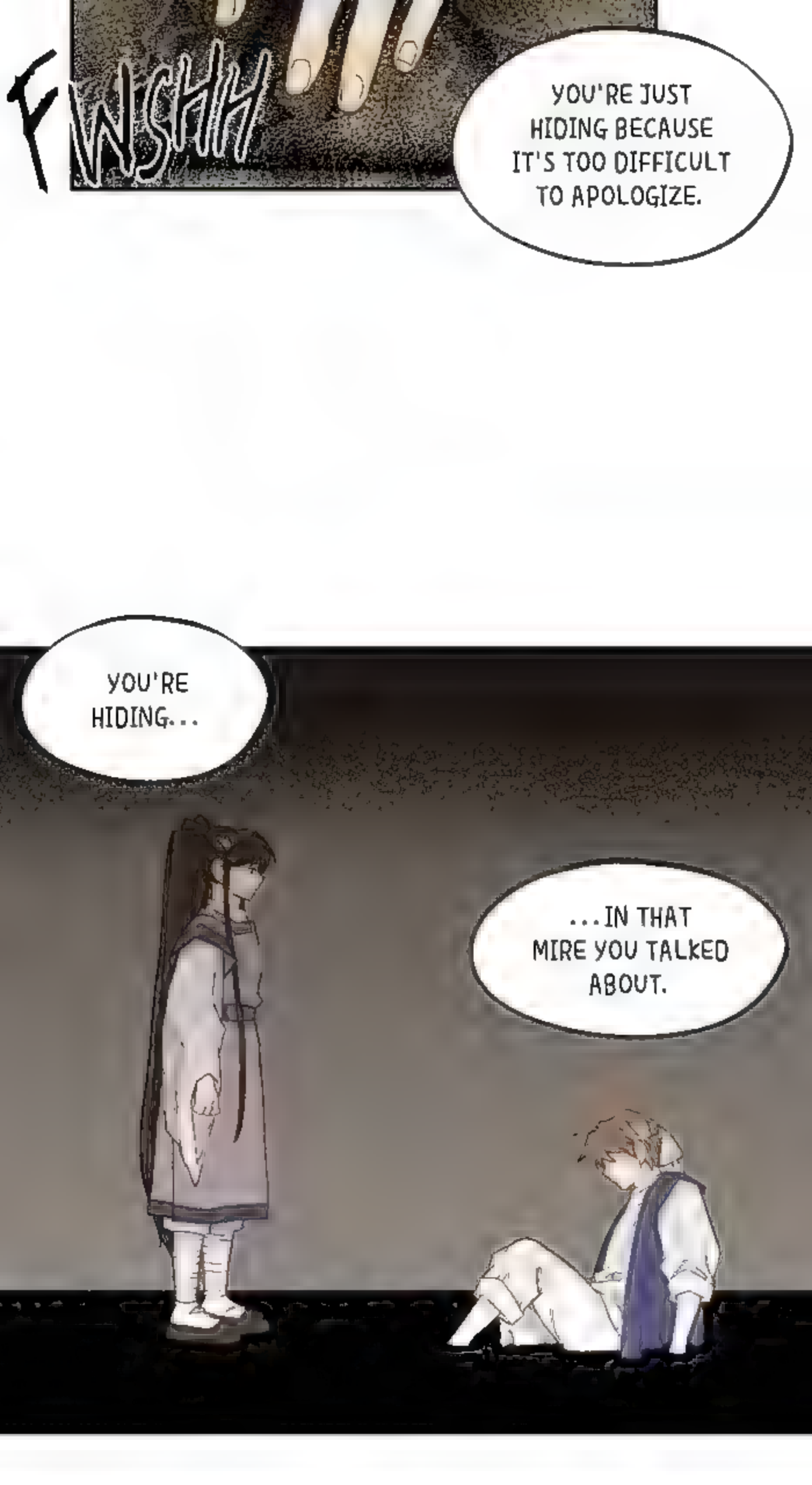
THAT'S WHY I DID IT.
I'M NOT WORTH FORGIVING...

...SO PLEASE...
...LET ME GO.
IS THIS THE ENDING YOU WANTED?

DON'T WANT TO BE UNDERSTOOD OR FORGIVEN, YOU JUST WANT TO DIE?
IT'S EASY TO COMMIT A CRIME AND DIE.
THAT'S JUST RUNNING AWAY.
IF YOU RUN AWAY, THERE'S NO MORE BLAME OR GUILT.

WHAT YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH...
...IS LOOKING THE PERSON YOU HURT IN THE EYE.

SAYING YOU HAVE NO WORDS, SAYING YOU CAN'T FACE ME...
THESE ARE JUST EXCUSES.

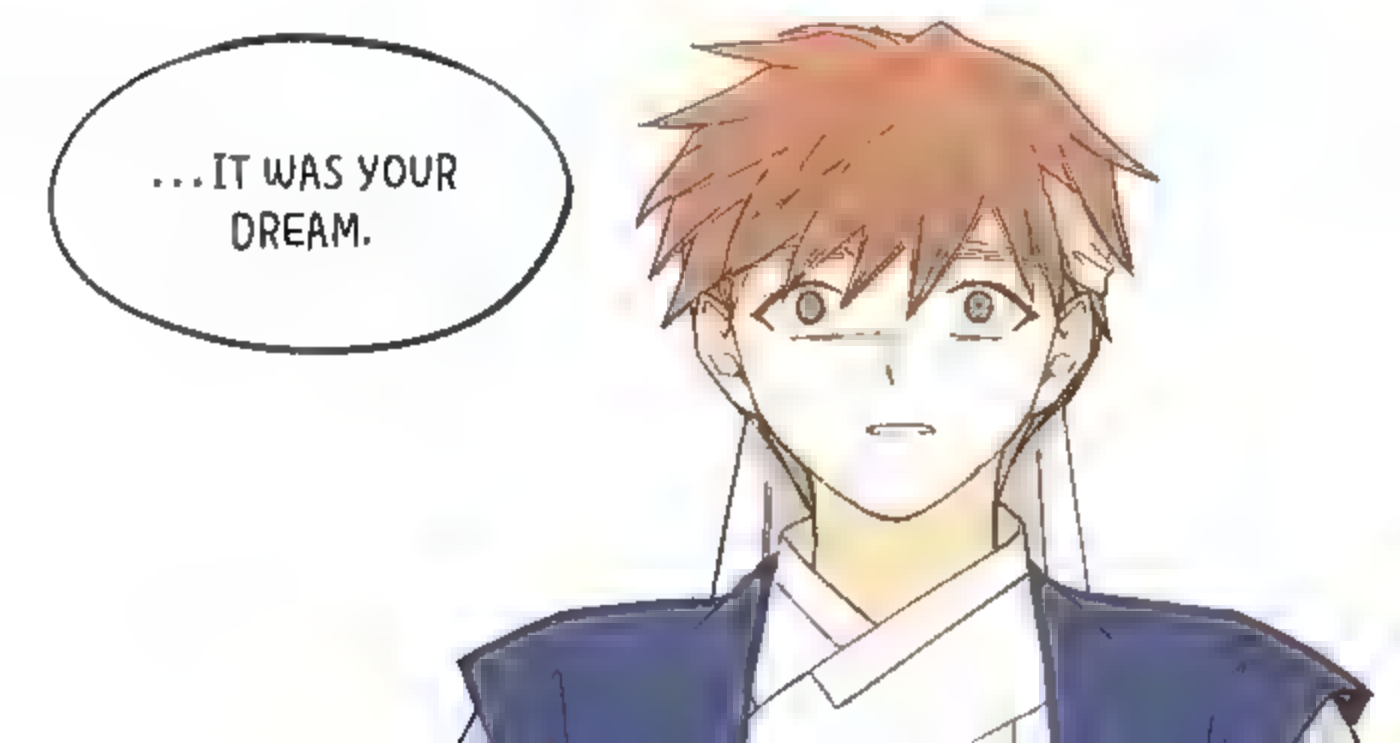

FWSHH
YOU'RE JUST HIDING BECAUSE IT'S TOO DIFFICULT TO APOLOGIZE.
YOU'RE HIDING...
...IN THAT MIRE YOU TALKED ABOUT.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO ME...
...THEN FINE.

WHAT ABOUT DAMSEOL?
FLINCH
DO YOU NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO HER TOO?
I WAS TOO PREOCCUPIED WITH FINDING A DESCENDANT TO REALIZE THIS AT THE TIME...
...BUT DAMSEOL KNEW WHERE YOUR DESCENDANT WAS BURIED EVEN BEFORE THE EXAM STARTED.

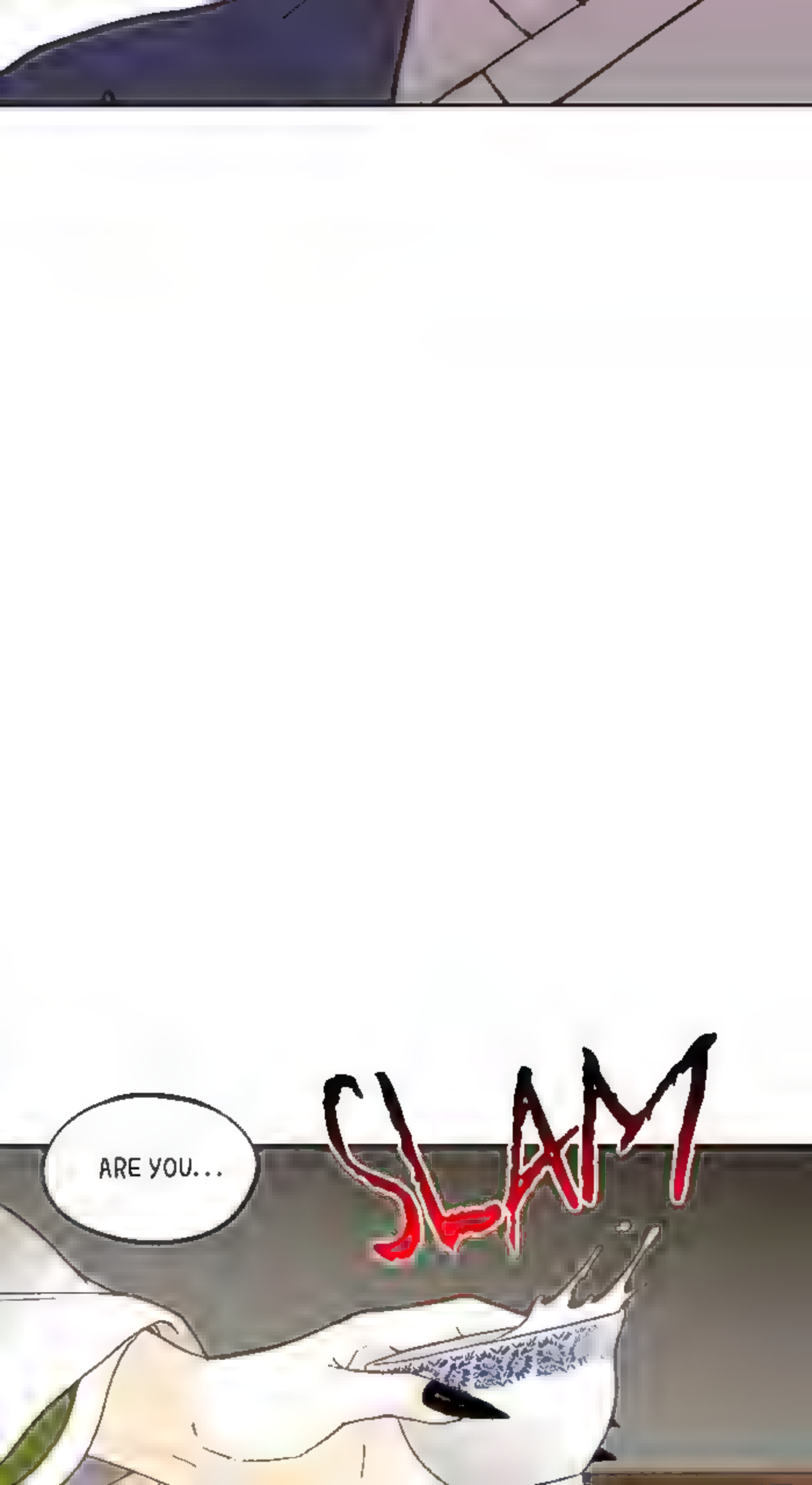
YOU MAY HAVE DIED AFTER HURTING HER LIKE THAT...
...BUT DAMSEOL WAS KEEPING WATCH THIS WHOLE TIME.

EVEN THOUGH YOU DIED WITHOUT LEAVING BEHIND ANY CHILDREN...
...SHE WATCHED YOUR FAMILY'S BLOODLINE CONTINUE,
BECAUSE...


...IT WAS YOUR DREAM.

SEEING YOUR FATHER CLEAR HIS NAME,
AND YOUR FAMILY REGAIN ITS REPUTATION.
THAT'S WHAT YOU REALLY WANTED.

BECAUSE YOU...
DRIP
...KEEP LIVING IN THE PAST.
...
DRIP


ARE YOU...
SLAM!

...SERIOUS?

WOULD I HAVE COME ALL THE WAY HERE SIMPLY TO LIE TO YOU?
IT SEEMS THAT I HAVE PIQUED YOUR INTEREST.

HUHU

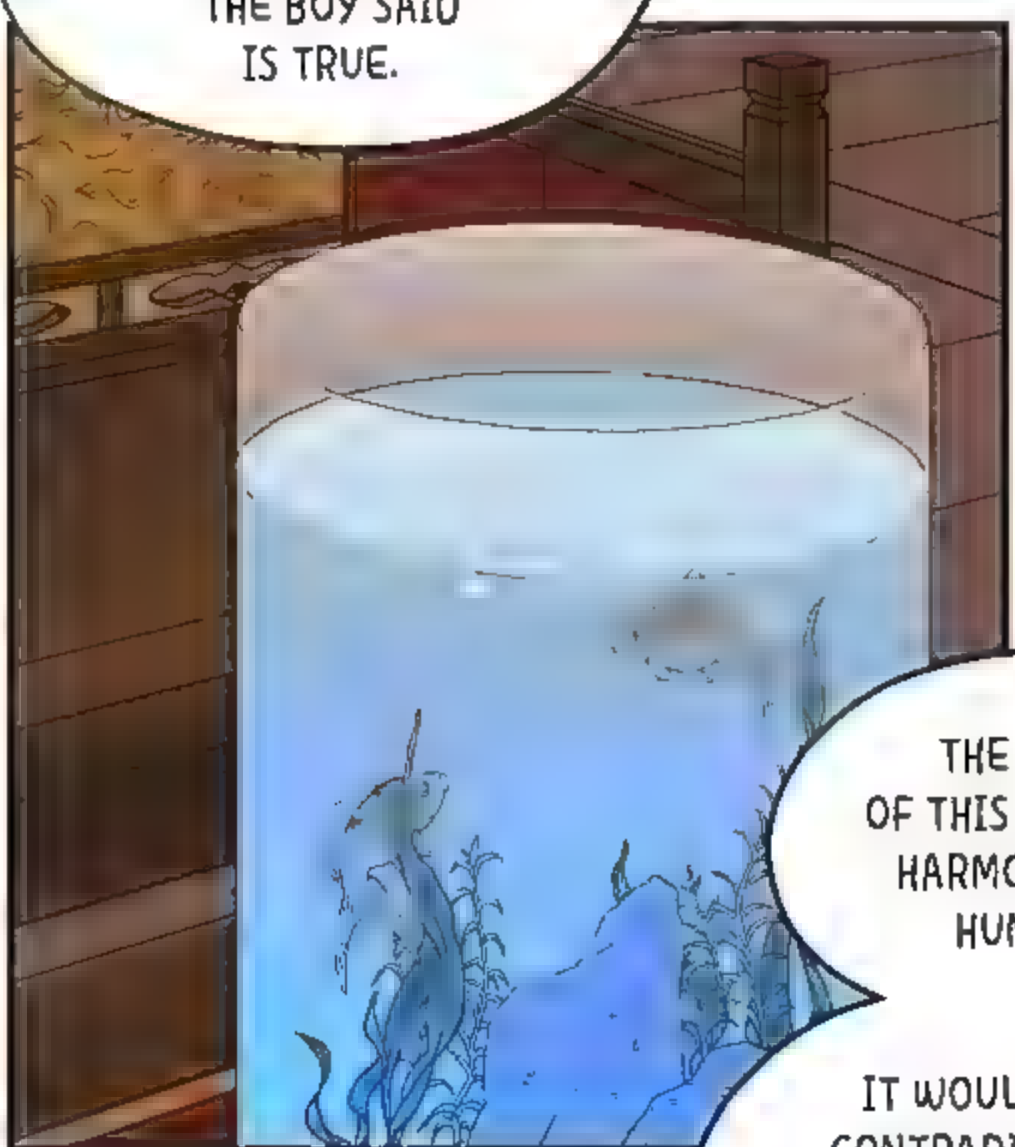
COMPARED TO A STORY LIKE THAT, A PRANK LIKE THIS IS NOTHING...

NO MATTER WHICH HUMAN'S BLOOD IS SHED, WOULD IT TRULY BE WORTHY OF YOUR ENTERTAINMENT?

WHY ARE YOU SAYING THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN...?

IS PICKING A DRAGON FOR THAT RIVER REALLY SO IMPORTANT?

IT MAY HAVE BEEN A POOR SPEECH, BUT WHAT THE BOY SAID IS TRUE.



THE THEME OF THIS EXAM WAS HARMONY WITH HUMANS.

IT WOULD BE CONTRADICTORY FOR THIS EXAM TO

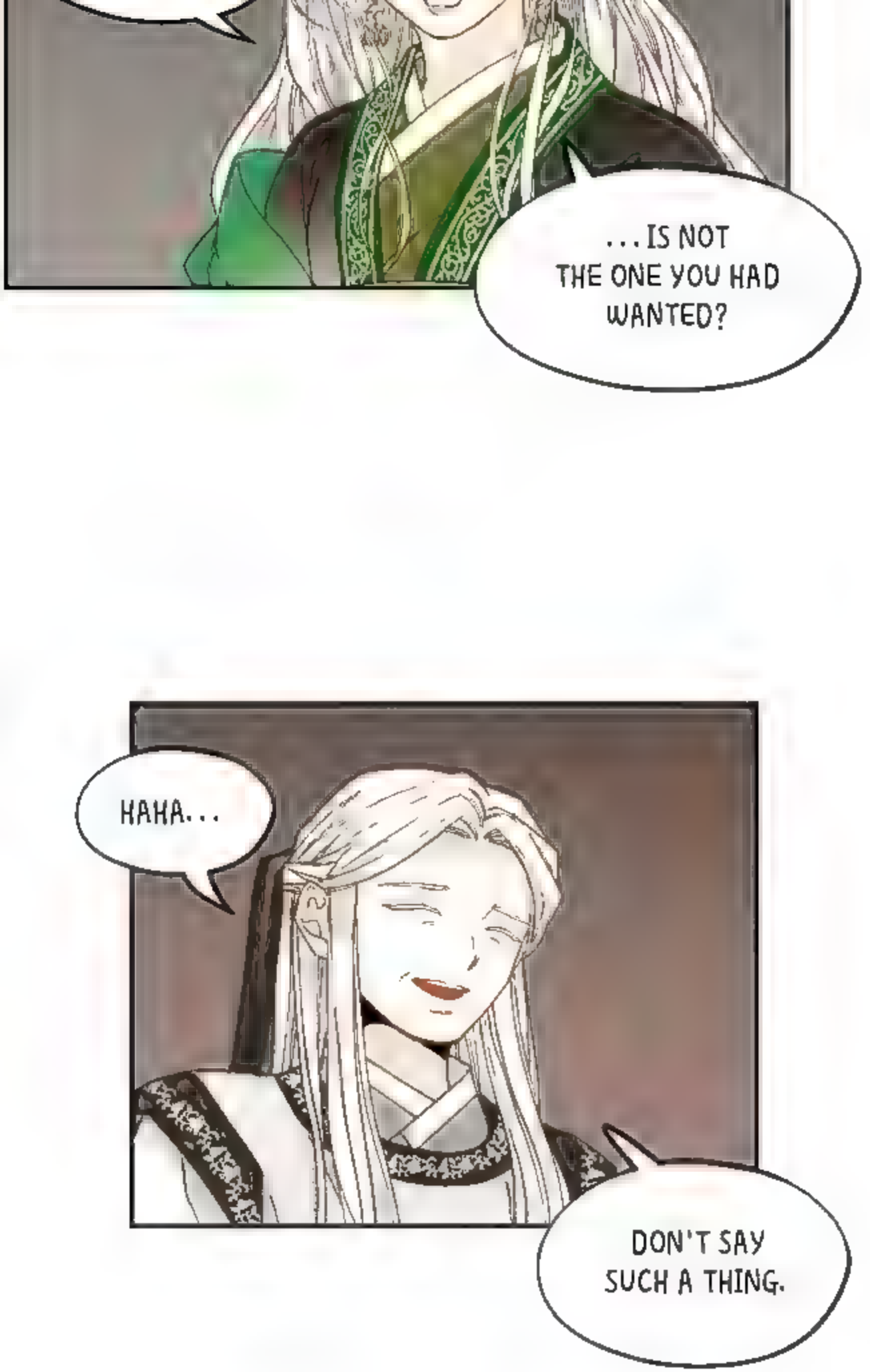
FOR THIS EXAM TO END WITH HUMAN BLOODSHED.

THE NEXT NAKDONG RIVER DRAGON IS NOT SOMEONE WHO WILL LET HUMANS DIE BEFORE HIS EYES...

...EVEN IF THAT HUMAN HAS WRONGED HIM.

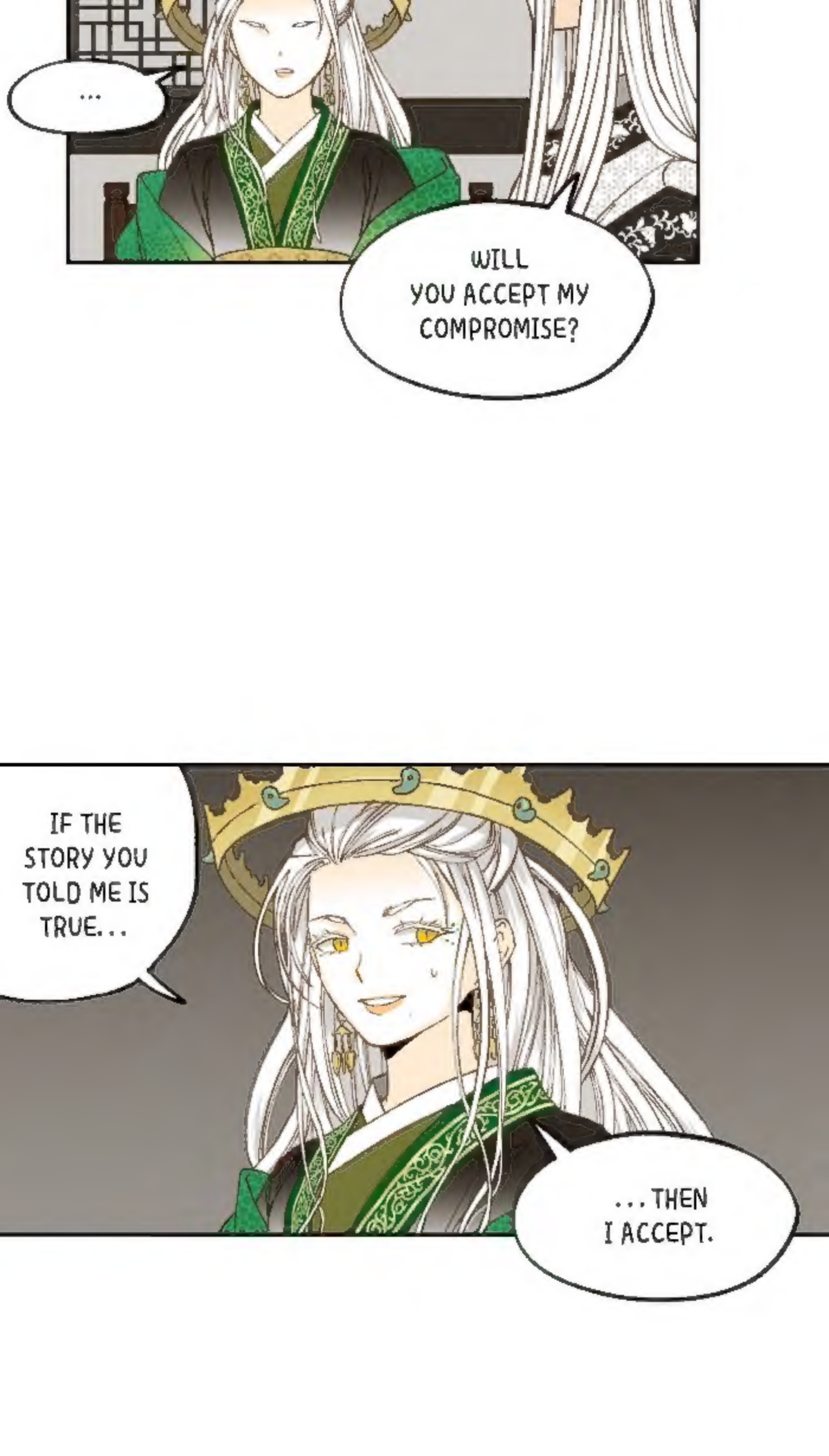
IF YOU TRY TO PUSH HIM, HE WILL DO SOMETHING RECKLESS.

I CANNOT LOSE A DRAGON AT THE LAST MOMENT AGAIN.
CRUSH
I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THE BIRTH OF A NEW DRAGON AS MUCH AS THE IMOOGIS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE EXAM.
EVEN IF THAT NEW DRAGON...


...IS NOT THE ONE YOU HAD WANTED?
HAHA...
DON'T SAY SUCH A THING.

I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED...
...THAT THE STRONGEST OF THE IMOOGIS WOULD PASS THE EXAM.

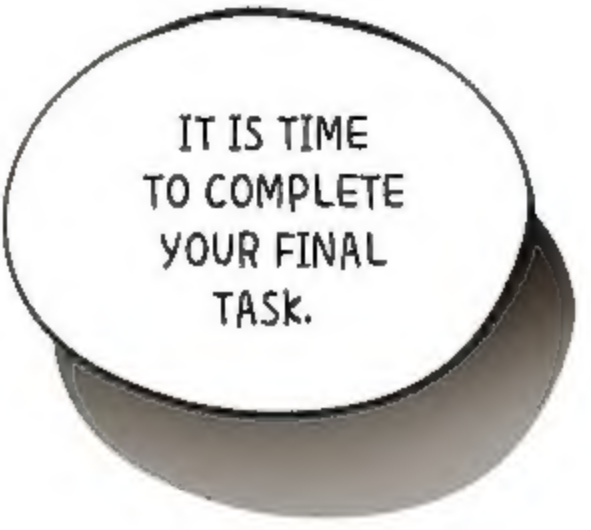
SO?


...
WILL YOU ACCEPT MY COMPROMISE?
IF THE STORY YOU TOLD ME IS TRUE...
...THEN I ACCEPT.

VERY WELL THEN, STAND UP.
IT IS TIME TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF A NEW DRAGON.
CREAK
IS THIS...
IS THIS THE REASON...

...THAT
YOU CREATED
SUCH A BOTHERSOME
TEST TO BEGIN
WITH?

...



Story/Art eon
Assistance stinis
HD
Gwang-gyu